

ORIGINAL

Docket 71158
Rev 222

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

16 FEB 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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FEB 23 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Christopher J. Dodd
United States Senator
Putnam Park
100 Great Meadow Road
Wethersfield, Connecticut 06109

Dear Senator Dodd:

This is in reply to your letter of January 29, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, J. E. Kemble, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Kemble is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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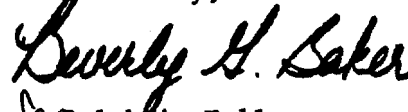
Honorable Christopher J. Dodd

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



B Beverly H. Saker
for Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:

Notice

Order

Discussion paper

cc:

Chief, PRBureau

Chief, LM&M Division

Deputy Chief, LM&M Division

Lou Sizemore, Room 857

Docket Files, Room 222

Licensing Div., PRB, c/o Room 5202

P&P Branch Files

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Congressional

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CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/03/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300385	02/03/93	01/29/93	02/17/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Chris Dodd	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
J E Kemble	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/kmm			

2-4-93

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/03/93			

REMARKS: Respond to the attention of P. Todd Pickens in
the CT office.

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CHRISTOPHER J. DODD
CONNECTICUT

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0702

CONNECTICUT OFFICE:
PUTNAM PARK
100 GREAT MEADOW ROAD
WETHERSFIELD, CT 06109

PRB
92-235
385

January 29, 1993

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim, Director
Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
Rm. 808
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Letter of Constituent--
J.E. Kemble of Madison, CT

Dear Ms. Solheim:

Please find enclosed a letter sent to me by one of my constituents, J.E. Kemble of Madison, Connecticut. Mr. Kemble wrote to bring to my attention his concerns about a proposed Federal Communications Commission rulemaking that he feels will unduly restrict the use of radio-controlled model airplanes, helicopters and boats.

I would appreciate it if you would review Mr. Kemble's letter in order to direct your comments on its content to my office so that I might be able to address his concerns.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


CHRISTOPHER J. DODD
United States Senator

CJD/ptp
enclosure
In. reply: Connecticut office
tel. (203) 240-3470
Attn: P. Todd Pickens

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FBI

TP
From:- J. E. KEMBLE
65 ST. FRANCIS WOODS RD
MADISON, CT 06443 JAN 27 PM 10:40

To:- Senator Christopher J Dodd
100 Great Meadow Rd
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Jan 25 1993

Dear Sir,

It has recently come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering an action that will severely limit and potentially eliminate a very important hobby of mine, namely, radio controlled (R/C) model airplanes, helicopters and boats.

Their Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 Khz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users use of frequencies within 2.5 Khz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

This action will have a severe, detrimental effect upon me and the entire R/C hobby industry. If put into effect, my airplane or helicopter could easily be shot out of the sky by a mobile user I'd have no way of knowing about. This would create a disastrous situation in which physical injury, perhaps fatal, and property damage could occur.

I have been involved in this hobby for 40 years. I own 4 radios and 5 model planes, helicopters, cars and boats. In addition, I have numerous engines, and much expensive equipment to support my hobby. When you consider that there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the USA just like me, you may appreciate that these proposed rule changes will affect a lot of people economically and in terms of enjoyment.

I urge you to intervene on my behalf and object to this this Proposal. Insist that the FCC keep the present 10 Khz spacing between all frequencies on 75 MHz and 72 MHz bands available for safe use by R/C enthusiasts. Please don't let them eliminate this hobby, which not only of great pleasure for many, but also a constructive activity that has encouraged youngsters to follow careers in the sciences.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

